



## Upcoming Events

- September 17th Car seat safety event (free car seat installation)
- September 19th Education and Career Fair
- September 22nd Ball Etiquette / Free Ball gowns (E-5 and below)

## Inside this issue:

India Company	2
Kilo Company	3
Headquarters and Services Company	4
Weapons Company	5
Lima Company	6
Chaplain's Corner	7
In "FRO"mation	8
Event information	9

# Cutting Edge News

## Message from the Battalion Commander, LtCol Greeley



Dear 3d Battalion, 7th Marines' Families and Friends,

The past two months have been very busy and very successful for 3/7 as we "bust off the rust" and re-focus our efforts on preparing for next year's deployment. As of right now we are in a heavy rebuilding phase; there have been a lot of personnel changes as a result of many Marines and Sailors either getting out of the military following honorable service or simply moving on to new duty stations. This personnel turmoil means that we must focus on training individuals to step into positions of greater expectations and responsibility as they will be the men charged with developing and leading the new Marines whom we will receive in a few short months.

In support of this development, the Battalion emphasized individual skills ranging from technical weapons employment, tactical considerations for movement and leadership skills. Your loved ones have performed extremely well during the past few months and they continue to impress me with their knowledge and skills. Below is short a list and description of what they have accomplished:

-Tactical Small Unit Leaders Course (TSULC) which was a 3-week course designed to train our future fireteam and squad leaders. The curriculum centered on individual weapons employment, communication through our tactical orders process, patrolling skills, and offensive and defensive operations.

-Approximately 30 Marines deployed to Germany to evaluate a Georgian military unit preparing for deployment to Afghanistan.

-Crew-Served Weapons Course designed to prepare our mortarmen, machinegunners, and assaultmen/misslemen to employ their weapons.

-Exercise SCORPION FIRES where the 81mm Mortar platoon deployed to Yuma AZ and supported the training of attack aircraft.

-Company Patrolling Exercise which focused on the planning and execution of squad patrols.

-Squad Day and Night Attacks which allowed our Marines to put to use the skills from TSULC.

-Command Post Exercise (CPX) which allowed the battalion staff to establish our command and control apparatus in a field environment to include our Battalion Aid Station ran by our Navy brothers.

As you are well aware, we were very busy but again, your loved ones performed extremely well. We now set our sights on deploying the Battalion to Bridgeport, CA, to test our new leadership and personnel in a challenging mountain environment. We will be gone from the end of September and much of October and after that we prepare for the Birthday Ball.

In closing, I would like to thank you all for your time and patience as we prepare for deployment. Families are the ones who must bear the burden of the unknown while continuing to maintain the home-front. We couldn't do it without you.

Very Respectfully,

Edward C. Greeley  
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding Officer  
3d Battalion, 7th Marines

## India Company

Family and Friends of India Company 3/7,

This month of August was filled with our Marines out in the field hitting the ground running on in the training cycle starting with Tactical Small Unit Leader's Course (TSULC), Scorpion Fires, Georgia Deployment Program, and Crew Served Weapons Field Exercise.

After spending time learning in the classroom and putting what they learned into practice in the field, India Company had 26 Marines graduate from TSULC. These Marines now have the skills to train the company's newest Marines when they arrive and join our ranks.

Along with TSULC, we had Marines do a 81mm mortar shoot in Yuma, Arizona to support a training exercise called Scorpion Fires. During their 2 weeks training at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, the Marines assisted in training Forward Air Controllers and used their extra time to improve their skills as mortar men.

With the company spread out improving their skills in their individual military occupations we had our weapons platoon participating in the Crew Served Weapons FEX. Nearly every Marine in the platoon was working hard as either a student or an instructor in the machine gun, mortars, missiles, or rockets course. The courses ended with the Marines participating in a live fire range that allowed them to put into practice the skills that they learned over the past two weeks. With the company out learning and testing their new skills we also sent a few Marines to Bridgeport to train at the Mountain Warfare Training Center. Our Marines attended a variety of classes to include Animal Packers, and Mountain Medicine. These Marines will be able to take the information and skills that they learned during their time at Bridgeport and further the training that we will be doing as we prepare for and then go train at Bridgeport for the Mountain Exercise coming up next month.



This week Capt Speers, GySgt McDaniel , Sgt Castaneda, Cpl Barrientos, Cpl Cheney, Cpl Kuhl, Cpl Parks, and Cpl Stults returned after a month away, training the Georgian Army in Germany.

I hope all enjoy the weekend and the Labor Day Holiday.

Semper Fidelis,

1st Lt Seth Holland  
India XO

## Kilo Company

Family and friends of Kilo Company,

The month of August has been a busy one, with the Company supporting numerous training exercises. Lieutenant Hardy, Staff Sergeant Hodgson, Sergeant Chavez, Corporals Fry and Raulerson have all returned from Hohenfels, Germany where they supported the training of Alpha Company, 32nd Battalion of the Georgian Army. Lance Corporal Boykins and Sanchez spent two weeks in Yuma, Arizona with the Battalion 81mm mortar platoon, supporting Scorpion Fires, a combined arms exercise designed to create Forward Air Controllers Airborne (FACA). Twenty seven Marines in the Company graduated from the Tactical Small Unit Leaders Course (TSULC) which instructed the basics of serving as a fire team leader. Subjects in the course included all fire team weapons and equipment, how to conduct fire and movement both day and at night and patrolling skills. TSULC was also designed to train the trainer, in other words explain how the graduates will teach fundamental skills to our anticipated new Marines. Numerous Marines in the Company are currently away from home and continuing their development through attending professional schools such as: the Infantry Squad Leaders Course, Mountain Leaders Course and Machine Gun and Assault Leaders Course. The Company has also been supporting and participating in numerous rifle ranges, a long week of firing which is an annual training requirement for all Marines.



Kilo Company recently said goodbye to Gunnery Sergeant James Hussey who recently moved on to Quantico, Virginia where he will serve in Combat Instructor Company, Instructor Battalion, The Basic School. His tactical and technical proficiency, mentorship and esprit de corps will all be sorely missed. His dedication to the Marines and the Company is literally measured by the blood he shed in combat. Kilo Company was privileged to award him the Purple Heart medal before his departure on 21 August. As Gunny Hussey would often say, STAY IN THE FIGHT! Best

wishes to Gunny, his wife Erin and their three children.

This fall will be a continuation of the fast paced operational tempo in Kilo Company. Scheduled training highlights include a Company Patrolling Exercise in Big Bear California on 11 September and departure for Mountain Exercise 7-12 on 23 September, where the Marines will spend a month in Bridgeport, California learning the skills necessary to fight in any climb or place in support of our combat mission in Afghanistan. The Marines will be in a mountain environment and will have limited communications. The Company will ensure that redundant means of communication are established and that Families are prepared for the month long deployment.

Semper Fidelis,

M. B. Harmon



3d Battalion 7th Marines would like to  
welcome baby girl Blake Jane Harmon  
Born August 29th at 5:34am

## Headquarters and Services Company

Family and friends,

The last month has certainly proven to demonstrate the extraordinarily vast capabilities of the Marines and Sailors of Headquarters and Service Company. Beyond maintaining their individual skills in their designated specialties, they have enabled a myriad of training events for the other companies. On any given day, you could find your Marine or Sailor driving ammunition and supplies to the furthest corners of 29 Palms, providing long range communications around the training area, managing the health and welfare from the Battalion Aid Station, or even supporting other nation's armed forces in their pre-deployment training.

In addition to training aboard the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, many of your loved ones have been attending schools at Camp Pendleton, Mountain Warfare Training Center in Northern California, Quantico, Virginia or deploying to Germany to support the Georgian Army before they deploy to Afghanistan. It is quite obvious that the audacious pace and scope of the Battalion's training requirements is only possible because of the colossal efforts and prowess of your Marines and Sailors.

While the company's overall success is contingent upon mutual support, some Marines have distinguished themselves in this past month. Listed within the "Cutting Edge" is a list of our newest promoted Marines whose hard work in peace and war has garnered the special trust and confidence of increased rank and responsibility. Further, in two separate ceremonies, 1stSgt Daniel Downs and Sgt Michael Kern reenlisted in the Marine Corps. Even though the proceedings were humble the importance surrounding the event carries great emphasis. Not only have these two fine Marines served admirably in a decade marked by combat they have pledged their service to continue that fight wherever and whenever our Nation deems necessary. The Marines' and their families' selflessness know no bounds.

I hope many of you enjoyed the Battalion's Town Hall meeting last month as it certainly provided many details concerning the unit's next few months. Also, I personally enjoyed meeting some of you at the Battalion Pool Party and look forward to meeting many more of you in the future. Any time the



Marines, Sailors, and families can come together is a great experience. I would encourage you all to seek out those opportunities whether they are social or informational in nature. In this, the Battalion's leadership and family readiness team are always prepared to aid you in any questions or concerns you have regarding your loved one. Without question, you are just as important to the collective success of Headquarters and Service Company as anyone else. I cannot express how much your patience and support enables us to maintain our focus on training and mission accomplishment.

As always, I trust this letter finds all of you well. I hope to hear and see many of you soon. Take care and God bless.

Semper Fidelis,  
Capt Mike Simon



## Weapons Company

Friends and Family, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Even though the company has been back only a few short months, we are already well into some of the Battalion's more significant training events. The majority of August was filled with our Marines focused on the Tactical Small Unit Leader's Course (TSULC), Scorpion Fires, Georgia Deployment Program, and Crew Served Weapons Field



Exercise.

After three challenging weeks in the classroom and in the field, Weapons Company had 18 Marines graduate from TSULC. These Marines are now prepared to train the company's new joins when they begin arriving this winter.

In conjunction with TSULC, the 81mm mortar platoon made the trip to Yuma, Arizona to support training exercise Scorpion Fires. Throughout their 2 weeks aboard Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, the Marines supported the training of dozens of Forward Air Controllers and used their extra time to improve their skills as mortar men.

For the last two weeks the company has been heavily involved with Crew Served Weapons FEX. Nearly every Marine in the company has been working hard as either a student or an instructor at the machine gun, mortars, missiles, or rockets course. The courses all culminated this week with a live fire range, as seen here as Lance Corporal Derek Buckles prepares to engage a target with a Javelin missile.

In addition to everything happening here at MCAGCC 29 Palms, we've also had several Marines take the trip to Bridgeport to train at the Mountain Warfare Training Center. Our Marines attended a variety of classes to include Mountain Leaders, Mountain Comm, Animal Packers, and Mountain Medicine. These Marines will be invaluable as we prepare for Mountain Exercise coming up next month.

The Marines who were a part of the Georgia Deployment Program: Capt Russell, Sgt Gendron, Sgt Flaa, and Sgt Friend return this week after a month away, training the Georgian Army.

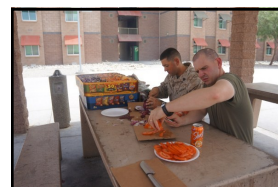
I hope this letter finds you enjoying the last of summer and the Labor Day Holiday.

Semper Fidelis,

1st Lt Tony Roubal

Weapons XO

### Weapons Company Ball Fundraiser BBQ





## Lima Company

Family and Friends of Lima Company,

After several weeks of distributed operations, Lima Company has begun to see its Marines and Sailors return from number of assignments and locations. The Company had seven Marines return from Germany where they took part in the Georgian Deployment Program. This program is designed to assist the Georgian soldiers in their preparation to deploy to Afghanistan where they will serve alongside U.S. forces. Additionally the Company had four Marines graduate from the Mountain Leaders course. This grueling course is intended to develop Marines as subject matter experts during the company's upcoming Bridgeport deployment.



The Battalion hosted the Tactical Small Unit Leader Course (TSULC) as well this month. This three-week course was intended to teach our future team leaders the proper way to train and evaluate the incoming junior Marines. The Marines of the Company distinguished themselves during this three-week course with special recognition being given to Cpl Jared Charpentier. Cpl Charpentier was voted the "Gung-ho" award winner by his fellow students as the Marine they would be most confident to serve with in Combat. Congratulations Cpl Charpentier.

Additional training in August included two company field exercises. The first was a three-day patrolling exercise (21-23 August). The Marines of the company refreshed basic patrolling techniques and procedures while establishing squad cohesion in preparation for the evaluated squad attacks (27-29 August). The Company was able to conduct multiple day and night time squad attacks which built on the team level training which the Marines received at TSULC. The squad attacks gave the team leaders and squad leaders a chance to execute at the next level and to assess which skill sets should be focused on during squad training.

The operational tempo for Lima Company will remain high through the month of September and into October. The Company will support the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Unit Enhancement Training (UET) (7-20 September). Following immediately after the UET, the Company will depart for the Mountain Warfare Training Exercise (23 September – 19 October). The fourth quarter (October-December) training plan has been published. Each Marine will be afforded the opportunity to see and have a copy of the plan. I encourage each and every Marine to take home a copy of this plan and review it with their spouse in order to build a better understanding of the Marines' schedule for the months of October through December.

As always, I thank the friends and families of Lima Company for the support and encouragement that you give to your Marine or Sailor. The men are doing great work and it is your support which allows them to succeed.

Semper Fi,

Capt Bill Milana





## Chaplain's Corner

Dear Marines, Sailors, and Families of 3/7,

As an undergraduate student in college, I studied ecclesiastical Latin (I know, I'm a nerd). In my Latin class, I first learned the term 'fidelis.' All Marines, of course, know that fidelis means faithful, it's root being 'fide' which means faith.

Faith is belief in something you can't see, but which is no less true. When you vow semper fidelis (to be always faithful) you are asking those around you to take, on faith, that they can always trust your conduct to hold up to certain and exacting standards.

Faith requires faith: to accept someone's vow of faithfulness, you yourself have to have faith in that person. I have faith in God, because I know that a perfect Being always upholds my trust even if I cannot immediately see how God's vows will be fulfilled. Humans are not so perfect, yet we still place a great deal of trust in each other. This is to both our great joy and sorrow as those around us do or do not live up to the faith we place in them.

Despite being vulnerable, with the potential for being hurt, still we hope that those we rely on will uphold our faith. To live in faith generates hope. As we live our lives with integrity and keep our vows, faith and hope blossom into the knowledge that we will not let others down. As this realization occurs, our sacred trusts and bonds of brotherhood and family become all the more strengthened. When we fail to live in integrity with our vows, however, doubt and mistrust creep in, making it difficult if not impossible for others to have faith in us.

If you truly believe in being always faithful, then you must strive with your entire being to live in integrity, that others might trust and hope and have faith in you. If you have gone astray, then repent to those you have wronged, and begin to live again within your vows; although difficult, faith can be restored.

Faithfully Yours,

LTJG Bryant

3/7 Chaps

### CREDO MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT RETREAT

Provides couples with the opportunity to explore ways to keep their marital relationship healthy while dealing with conflicts that may arise. This experience enables participants to explore the emotional, physical, and spiritual components of their marriage and to grow closer as couples.

This retreat is FREE

September 9-11 at Forest Home near in Big Bear

For more information email: RP3 Fleming at:

[kreshawn.fleming@usmc.mil](mailto:kreshawn.fleming@usmc.mil)

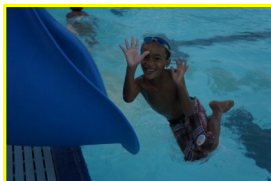




Volunteers Nicole Quinn and Tina Martinez help make cotton candy for the Battalion Pool Party



Volunteers Tina Martinez, Nicole Quinn, Sheila Rodriguez and Lisa Billingsley show off the cotton candy gifts for our Pool Party attendees! It was a sticky mess but we had fun. Thanks ladies!



Xavier Warthen splashes into the Pool during the Battalion Pool Party



Fierce competition during the Pool Party relay!  
To view more pictures of this event and other 3/7 functions checkout eMarine!

## In "FRO" mation

Good afternoon 3/7 Family and Friends,

Fall is nearly here and there are many different events on the horizon. The Battalion will be leaving for Bridgeport soon and before we know we will be celebrating the Marine Corps Birthday. With so many things going on, if you would like to have the latest information, eMarine is a great way to find out about what is going on with 3/7, aboard the base, and even in the surrounding area. It is a secure website subscribers can use to find resources, see the Battalion schedule, and access many other pieces of information that we are not able to share on our Facebook page. The site is updated on a weekly basis and new content is constantly being added.

Many of you are new to the Battalion and the desert is definitely a different type of environment. I challenge you to attend Battalion functions, step out of your comfort zone, and see what the local area has to offer. Here are some items that might make your life here more enjoyable:

- A couple times a year 3/7 hosts fun events for families; last week the Battalion hosted a Pool party and attendees had a blast.
- Active Duty military are now eligible for free access to National Parks so visit Joshua Tree National Park.
- Do you have a new baby? The fire department, MCCA, and New Parent Support are teaming up to host a Car seat safety event at the PX on Sept. 17th.
- For those of you interested in attending school or finding a job, MCCA is hosting an Education and Career Fair on September 21st.
- On September 22nd, L.I.N.K.S. is hosting a Ball etiquette class. This class will educate you more about the history around the Marine Corps Ball and have some great breakout sessions on those steps to the Cha-Cha slide, which fork to use, and other fun topics. Immediately afterwards attendees who are E-5 and below will be able to have first dibs on a FREE ball gown from the ASYMCA. Childcare for attendees will be FREE.

Duty stations are what you make of them; if come out to the Battalion functions and take advantage of the Base sponsored events and classes offered to you in the local area, you will have a successful tour here in beautiful 29Palms.

If you have any questions about anything I have mentioned here, if you are in need of a specific resource, or even if you just want to chat, please remember that I am here "FRO" you.

Warmly,

Andrea Tatayon  
Family Readiness Officer  
3d Battalion, 7th Marines

Our Volunteers have fun and you can too! Join the 3/7 Family Readiness Volunteer Team today!



**Family Readiness Volunteer Training graduates with a proud FRO**— August 17 2012  
From left to right back row: Lisa Billingsley, Charlotte Gallardo, Katie Streck, Rochelle Kimmel, Andrea Tatayon. Front row left to right: Vanessa Harmon, Tina Martinez and Jesse Cardona! Congratulations ladies!



## Upcoming events

### Career and Education Fair- September 19th

Interested in furthering your education?  
New to the Morongo Basin/  
Twentynine Palms job market?

The Education & Career Fair is for you! Over 65 employers and schools will be in attendance and ready to answer your questions and receive your resume. The Fair will be inside the West Gym (Bldg 1518) on Wednesday, September 19 from 0930-1330. This event is open to all hands. (Business dress or uniform of the day is highly suggested.)

### Sounds Of Freedom Concert

See Hinder & Theory of a Deadman live on Lance Corporal Torrey Gray Field

Saturday, September 29  
starting at 1900.

This concert is FREE and open to anyone with base access. Be sure to bring your lawn chairs & enjoy the music! (Parental guidance is suggested.) Please visit MCCS Special Events for more information.

### FREE movies at the Sunset Cinema

Every Saturday at 1030 the base theater offers a FREE family-friendly movie! Upcoming FREE movies include:

September 1: Kung Fu Panda 2 (rated PG)

September 8: Ice Age 3: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (rated PG)

### Ball Tickets

This year our Ball will be held at the Planet Hollywood Hotel in Las Vegas on November 11th.

Tickets are \$50.00 per person and can be purchased from your Company or from the FRO.

Payment can be accepted in the form of cash or check. All checks must be made out to "MCCS"

The last day to purchase Ball tickets is Monday, September 17th.

### L.I.N.K.S. evening class! Sept 11-13

L.I.N.K.S. (Lifestyle, Insights, Networking, Knowledge, Skills) is an official Marine Corps program which helps families connect to the Corps. This two day session for spouses will help guide participants through "the maze" of military benefits & services, teach participants how to read a LES, discuss strategies and the challenges of separations, deployments, moving on military orders, and more. This course will help any spouse increase their knowledge & skills as a military spouse.

This L.I.N.K.S. session will take place September 11-13 from 1800-2100 all three days. Please register by calling 830-3110. FREE childcare is available if you register by September 4.

## Planet Hollywood Room Rates

The Battalion has reserved a block of rooms on the night of our Ball, November 11th at the rate of \$87.00 per room.

To reserve a room at Planet Hollywood please call:

The reservation Center at (888) 746-6955 to secure a reservation on our group block. Currently, the name of the group is listed as "3rd Battalion 7th Marines USMC Ball"

Reservations may also be made online by using the link below:

<https://www.totalrewards.com/hotel-reservations/main/?prop-Code=PHV&groupCode=SM3RD2>

For Marines/Sailors or spouses under the age of 21, we have a concession in our contract which allows you to reserve rooms at the Hotel on the

night of the Marine Corps Ball.

If you are under the age of 21 please contact the hotel using the 1-888 number I have provided here.

For any other questions or concerns about the rooms at Planet Hollywood, please call the FRO-760-830-1697

**Are you  
interested in  
learning more  
about what is  
happening on the  
base?  
Check out their  
website at  
Mccs29palms.org**

**3D BATTALION 7TH  
MARINES**


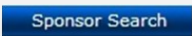
Building 1416  
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center  
Box 788263  
Twentynine Palms, Ca 92278-8263

*September 2012*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 <small>CREDO Marriage Retreat</small>	11	12 <small>L.I.N.K.S.</small>	13	14	15
16	17 <small>Car Seat Safety- 8am-1pm</small>	18	19 <small>Career &amp; Education Fair</small>	20	21	22 <small>FREE Ball Gowns Ball etiquette Class</small>
23	24 <small>Volunteer Meeting 9:30 at the Dino Park</small>	25	26	27	28	29 <small>Sounds of Freedom Concert</small>
30						

Check out our eMarine site:  
[www.eMarine.org](http://www.eMarine.org)

**3/7 Marines and Sailors to register:**

- ☐ Go to [www.emarine.org](http://www.emarine.org)
  - ☐ Click  (top right corner of the screen)
  - ☐ Choose the  button
  - ☐ Enter your name **AS IT APPEARS IN MOL**
  - ☐ Enter your birthday in **MMDD** format (i.e., Jan 5 is 0105)
  - ☐ Choose "1st Marine Division > 7th Marine Regiment > 3rd Battalion (California, UIC: M13160)"
  - ☐ Register as a Sponsor, and fill in the required information
- Once you've signed up, please take a moment to invite your spouse, significant other, parents, siblings, or other Family Members!

